



# NEWS RELEASE



United States Department of Agriculture  
National Agricultural Statistics Service  
Delta Regional Office (serving Arkansas, Louisiana, and Mississippi)  
10800 Financial Centre Parkway, Suite 110, Little Rock, AR 72211

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
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Contact: Eugene Young  
(800) 327-2970

## USDA TO GATHER DATA ON COTTON PRODUCTION

**Little Rock, AR** – In July, U.S. Department of Agriculture's National Agricultural Statistics Service (NASS) will reach out to cotton producers across the country to begin collecting information for its' monthly *Crop Production* report. Each year the Cotton Objective Yield Survey monitors selected sample cotton fields during the growing season. By gathering data on cotton plants, boll count and weight, NASS can better determine an official estimate of cotton yield and production.

"In July, NASS representatives, called a NASDA enumerator, will contact selected producers in six major cotton producing states, I am proud Arkansas is one of those states," said Becky Cross, Director, NASS Delta Regional Office. This initial visit with producers consists of a brief interview to determine field production and to gain permission to enter the selected fields. The survey continues with monthly measurements until after harvest, however these periodic visits do not require any additional time from the producer. Along with regular measurements, NASS includes some fields in a post-harvest gleaning sample.

In Arkansas, NASS surveys approximately 112 cotton producers. By participating, cotton producers ensure NASS provides timely, accurate and objective data that all sectors of the U.S. cotton industry can depend on to help make sound business decisions.

Information provided by respondents for all NASS surveys is confidential by law. NASS safeguards privacy of all responses and publishes only aggregate data, ensuring that no individual operation or producer can be identified.

NASS publishes the survey results in the monthly *Crop Production* Report, August through November 2016. NASS will, also, provide final cotton yield and production estimates in its' *Annual Crop Production* report in January 2017. These and all NASS reports are available online at [www.nass.usda.gov](http://www.nass.usda.gov). For more information, please call NASS Delta Regional Office at (800) 327-2970.

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NASS provides accurate, timely, and useful statistics in service to U.S. agriculture. We invite you to provide occasional feedback on our products and services. Sign up at <http://usda.mannlib.comell.edu/subscriptions> and look for "NASS Data User Community."

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